

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of SPECIAL MEETING of the **RESOURCES AND CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 10 February 2005 at 2.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillors ALEX KING, RON SCRIMGEOUR, JACK GIBB, IAN MACKINTOSH, Provost BILL MIDDLETON, GLENNIS MIDDLETON, PETER MURPHY, ROB MURRAY, ROBERT MYLES, PETER NIELD, GEORGE NORRIE MBE, HELEN OSWALD, BILL ROBERTON, MARK SALMOND and DAVID SELFRIDGE.

Councillor KING, Convener, in the Chair.

### 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Ritchie declared an interest in item 3(c) (Report 184/05 page 114) as Chairperson of Montrose Air Station Heritage Centre.

### 2. PROVISIONAL REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2005/2006

There were submitted (a) [Report No 182/05](#) by the Director of Finance being a background Report apprising members of the provisional revenue budget submissions of each Council Department and of the departmental budget cuts considered necessary to allow the Council to deliver a Revenue Budget within the resources expected to be available and also setting out the Provisional Capital Budget submissions for those departments with Capital Expenditure; (b) [Joint Report No 183/05](#) by the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance being the outcomes from a number of Best Value Service Reviews which had been undertaken in recent months; (c) Report No 184/05 by the Director of Finance, being the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume, together with a commentary by each Head of Department; (d) Report No 185/05 by the Director of Finance, being the Departmental Budget Cuts Volume; and (e) Report No 186/05 by the Director of Finance, being the Provisional Capital Budget 2005/2006.

Councillor King then reported on the outcome of the meeting of the Central Consultative Committee held earlier this day.

The Committee had noted the concerns expressed by the teacher associations that, yet again, cuts on the Education budget fell on employee costs and supplies and services and that the outlook for the next two years was not encouraging. Proposed cuts of £595,000 would place a further strain on the service. The full implementation of the national agreement "Teaching Profession in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" had however been welcomed. The Committee had also noted the concerns expressed regarding the reduction of Leisure Services, although it was accepted that the Council was looking at ways of making the most effective use of these facilities when trying to persuade people to make more use of e.g. swimming pools within core hours. Concern at the reduction in vehicle maintenance within the Leisure Services and the Environmental and Consumer Protection departments had also been noted. Lastly, it had been noted that the proposed savings from the Best Value Review on car travel and subsistence was the subject of on-going negotiations.

Councillors Mackintosh, Murphy, Myles, Nield, Norrie and Salmond indicated that they wished to reserve their position on the budget to the special meeting of the Council.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the views of the Trade Union representatives on the Central Consultative Committee arising from their meeting of earlier this day;
- (ii) to note the provisional base revenue budget submissions for 2005/2006 of Miscellaneous Other Services, Personnel (including Training Services and Employment Disability Unit), Finance (General and Revenues), Law and Administration, Information Technology, Property Services and Local Offices as contained in pages 79, 88 to 90, 93 to 94, 97 to 102, 105, 107 and 108 respectively of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 184/05);

- (iii) to approve the virement of £6,000 from Corporate Initiatives to Citizens Advice Bureau in the 2005/2006 Miscellaneous Other Services revenue budget (page 74 of Report 184/05), leaving the total budgeted net expenditure for Miscellaneous Other Services unchanged;
- (iv) to note the budget cuts proposals of Personnel (including Training Services and Employment Disability Unit), Finance (General and Revenues), Law and Administration, Information Technology, Property Services and Local Offices as contained in pages 22, 26 to 27, 30, 32, 34 and 36 respectively of the Departmental Budget Cuts Proposals Volume (Report 185/05);
- (v) to approve the budget cuts for Personnel (including Training Services and Employment Disability Unit) totalling £9,000, Finance (General and Revenues) totalling £26,000, Law and Administration totalling £24,000, Information Technology totalling £12,000, Property Services totalling £13,000 and the budget cuts for Local Offices totalling £2,000;
- (vi) to approve the revised budget net expenditure for Miscellaneous Other Services, Personnel (including Training Services and Employment Disability Unit), Finance (General and Revenues), Law and Administration, Information Technology, Property Services and Local Offices resulting from (ii) to (v) above and recommend accordingly to the Council at the Council Tax setting meeting;
- (vii) to note the content of Report 183/05 on Best Value Service Reviews 2005/2006 and approve the efficiency savings identified for Finance (General and Revenues) totalling £12,000, Law and Administration totalling £6,000, Property Services totalling £12,000 and Information Technology totalling £1,000;
- (viii) to note and agree to submit to the Council at the Council Tax setting meeting that: the provision for Surplus Local Tax Income be £0.125 million; the provision for Capital Financing Costs (Loan Charges) be £11.566 million; the provision for Pay Inflation (including Teaching staff) be £3.390 million; the provision for energy costs be £0.251 million; and the allowance for efficiency savings be £0.542 million (all of which are shown on page 3 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume - Report 184/05);
- (ix) to note and approve the Provisional Common Good Fund budgets for 2005/2006 (as tabled) that were revisions to pages 110 to 115 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 184/05) to reflect the subsequent inclusion of a Heritage Transport Marketing officer for Brechin and Montrose;
- (x) to approve the provisional capital budget for 2005/2006 for Information Technology and Property Services as contained in pages 27 to 30 and 45 to 49 of the Provisional Capital Budget Volume (Report 186/05);
- (xi) to note the provisional base revenue budget submissions (excluding Loan Charges) for 2005/2006 of the three Joint Boards for Tayside, namely Valuation (Assessors) £0.740 million, Fire £4.694 million and Police £18.471 million as shown on page 109 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 184/05);
- (xii) to note that these finalised budget submissions for 2005/2006 of the Tayside Valuation, Tayside Fire and Tayside Police Joint Boards had been agreed at meetings of the respective Boards on 31 January 2005;
- (xiii) to submit these finalised budget requisitions for the Joint Boards to the Council at the Council Tax setting meeting;
- (xiv) to note the provisional capital budget for 2005/2006 for Miscellaneous (Tayside Valuation Joint Board) as contained in pages 35 and 36 of the Provisional Capital Budget Volume (Report 186/05);
- (xv) to note the provisional base revenue budget submission for 2005/2006 of the Tayside Contracts Joint Arrangement being £150,000 (Surplus) as shown on page 109 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 184/05);

- (xvi) to note that the 2005/2006 budget estimate for the Tayside Contracts Joint Arrangement had yet to be formally approved by the Joint Committee; and
- (xvii) to submit this provisional budget position for the Tayside Contracts Joint Arrangement to the Council at the Council Tax setting meeting.